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## SCIENTIFIC NEWS.

Among the recent deaths we notice those of Leonard Blomefield, the veteran naturalist of Bath, England; George William Shrubsole of Chester, England, aged 66; Miss Anne Pratt, the author of "Flowering Plants and Ferns of Great Britain," aged 87; the geologists, D. Homfray and George Robert Vine; and Franz Kiaer, the bryologist of Christiania, Norway.

Many Americans will learn with regret of the recent death of Mr. George Brook. He was born at Huddersfield, England, in 1857, was trained in business in his father's cotton mills, but soon turned to science. His early work was done in an admirably equipped private laboratory at home where he maintained marine aquaria and studied the embryology of the Teleosts. In 1884 he became connected with the Scotch fishing board and in 1885 was appointed lecturer on embryology to the University of Edinburgh. Among his more important papers may be mentioned his "Challenger" memoir on the Antipatharia and his catalogue of the Madreporarian corals of the British Museum, one volume of which was issued just before his death, which occurred August 12, as the result of sunstroke.

Mr. James William Davis of Halifax, England, died July 21, 1893, at the age of 47. He is best known for his monographs on the fossil fishes, the results of studies carried on in moments snatched from the large business enterprises carried on by himself and his brother.

D. T. Macdougall, formerly assistant in the biological laboratories at Purdue University at Lafayette, Indiana, has been appointed instructor in plant physiology in the University of Minnesota.

Dartmouth College is to be congratulated in its call of Dr. William Patton to the newly established Chair of Biology.

Professor Dr. J. Sollas has been appointed petrologist to the geological survey of Ireland.

Dr. A. Dendy, well known for his researches on sponges, has been appointed Professor of Biology in Canterbury College, Christchurch, N. Z., and will enter upon his duties there, February 1, 1894.

Mr. E. Uline has been appointed Curator of the Herbarium in Lake Forest College, Lake Forest, Ill.

Maximilian von Hantken, the Hungarian geologist died last June. He was professor of Palæontology in the University of Buda Pesth and councilor of the Hungarian Ministry.